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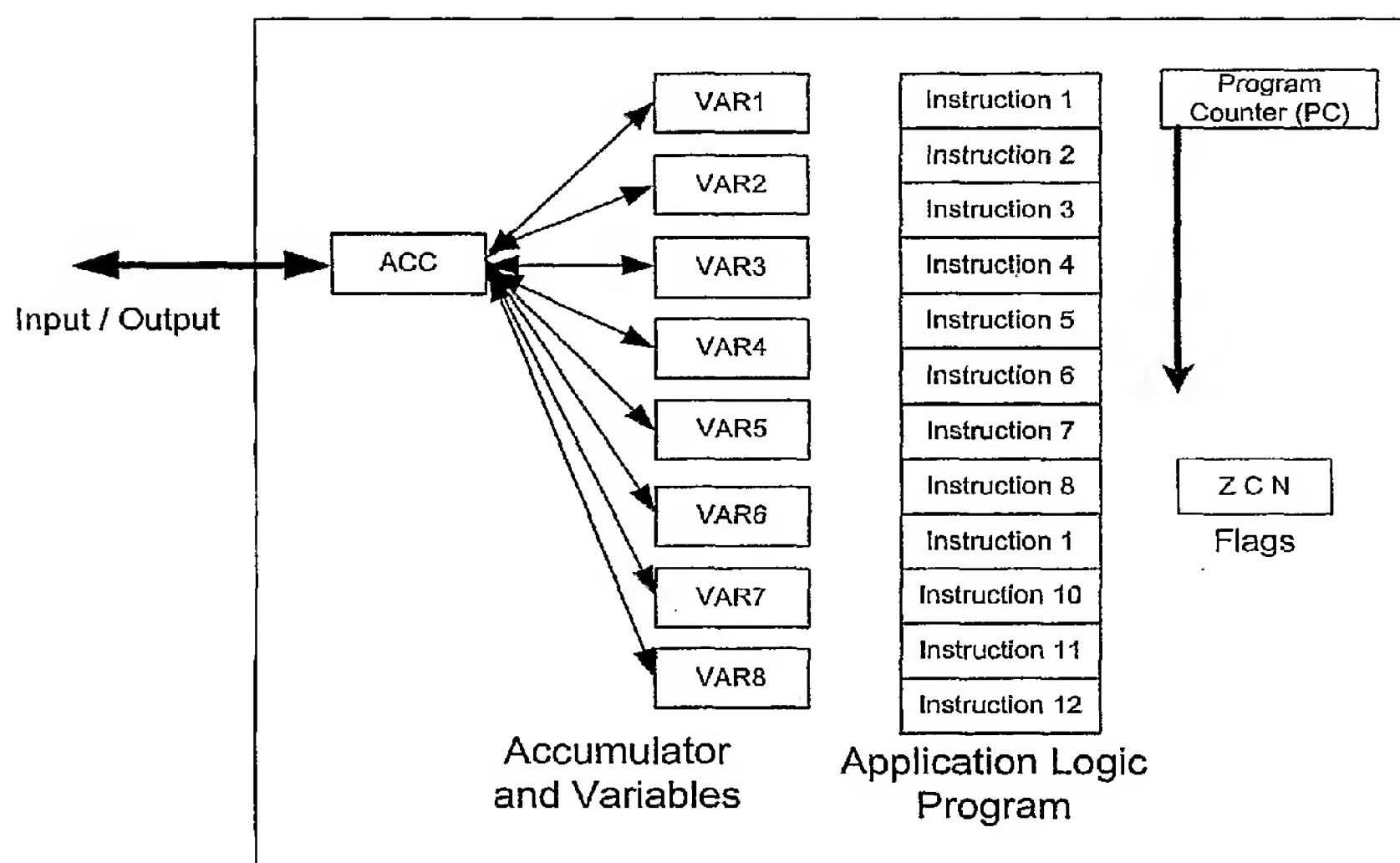
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SMARTCARD SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A programmable device, for example, a smartcard carries a file system and operating software enabling the on-device file system to interface with at least one off-device file and/or application at a terminal or interface device. The smartcard includes means such as a script engine for running a script command to modify the structure and content of the file system, or the commands to be used for accessing the file system, or any security conditions associated therewith. In the improved smartcard of the invention the script engine is operable to run a plurality of script commands in succession and to use an input/output buffer of the device as an accumulator to allow arithmetic operations on values held in data files or in the accumulator itself under the control of one or more of said script commands. This allows the system to provide for arithmetic operations, such as ADD, SUBTRACT or COMPARE, or other similar customised operations.

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